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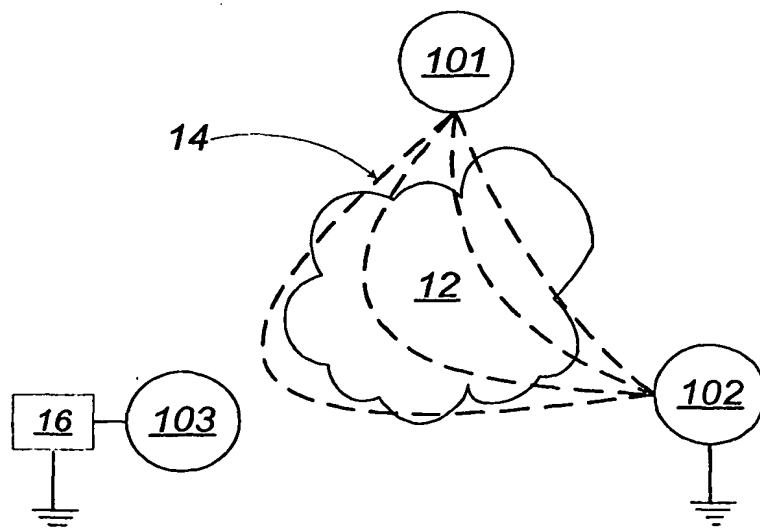
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR WOUND HEALING**



(57) Abstract: A method of promoting the healing of a wound disposed in soft tissue and having a physical extent is disclosed, comprising the steps of providing control circuitry to control the application of electrical current through a plurality of electrodes; applying three or more electrodes (101-103) to the surface of the soft tissue around and in proximity to the wound (12), wherein each of the three or more electrodes is connected to the control circuitry; conducting an electrical current (14) through the three or more electrodes, such that one electrode functions as a current source and one or more of the remaining electrodes functions as a current sink; and switching the function of acting as a current source and as a current sink among the electrodes. A device and suitable control circuitry are also disclosed.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61N 1/18

US CL : 607/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 607/50, 46, 48, 66-75

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,158,081 A (McWHORTER et al.) 27 October 1992, see entire document.	1, 15, 16, and 21
X	US 5,974,342 A (PETROFSKY) 26 October 1999. See column 5, lines 30-42.	1, 2, 12, , 14-16, 20, 21
A	US 4,738,250 A (FULKERSON et al.) 19 April 1988, see Figure 4.	1, 15, 16, 21

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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